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**[ABSTRACT]**

5 A method of detecting the orientation of a radiographic image  
represented by a digital signal representation wherein mathematical  
moments of the digital signal representation are calculated relative  
to different reference entities and wherein a decision on the  
orientation of the radiographic image, for example the position of  
10 the thorax edge in a mammographic image, is obtained on the basis of  
an extreme value (minimum, maximum) of the calculated moments.